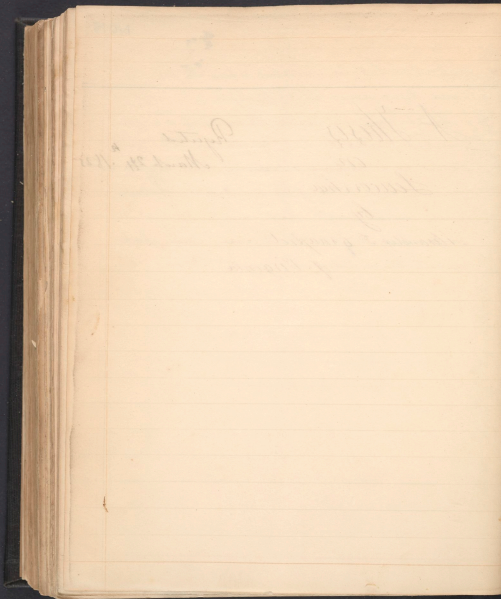


A Thesis
on
Leucorha

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by
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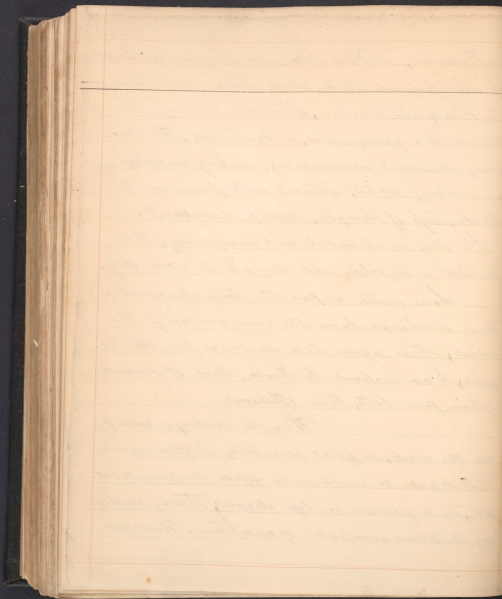


Leucorrhoea, or Fluor Albus, is an irregular discharge of white pellucid fluid which takes place from the Uterus and Vagina, afterwards varying its colour to a green, yellow, or brown hue, then becoming somewhat acrimonious, exciting smarting in making water; attended with pains in the back, loss of strength, paleness, languor, &c.

The sleep is disturbed and unrefreshing; the patient is dejected and disposed to melancholy.

Some writers confine the term Leucorrhoea to a discharge from the inner surface of the womb; others again to a discharge from the Vagina; I am inclined to think, that it proceeds often from both, than otherwise.

When the discharge comes from the womb, in great quantities, it often injures that organ so much, as to affect the menstruation, in a greater or less degree; thereby rendering the Uterus incapable of conception. However

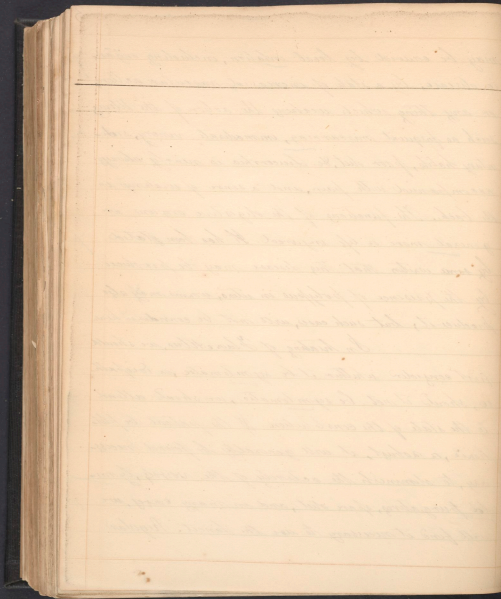


the menses frequently continue pretty regular; and in these cases, the Leucorrhoea discharge diminishes during the flow of the menses, but increases a little before and after menstruation.

It frequently happens when the menses are obstructed, that the Fluor Albus becomes more abundant, and be attended with more pain in the back, about the monthly period. Fluor Albus may occur in two different states of the constitution, these are, a state of plethora, and a state of debility. The first is marked by a full habit and a good complexion. The second, by a pale countenance, a sallow surface, and a feeble pulse. The discharge in some cases may be mixed with a little blood from the uterine vessels, if there be a tendency to menorrhagia, but not otherwise, unless there be organic disease of the parts. We must bear in mind that Leucorrhoea

may be caused by local irritation, including organs is disease; by a state of increased vascular action, or any thing which weakens the action of the Uterus, such as frequent miscarriage, immoderate venery, sedentary habits, poor diet, &c. Leucorrhoea is nearly always accompanied with pain, and a sense of weakness in the back. The functions of the digestive organs are generally more or less injured. It has been stated by some writers that this disease may be produced by the presence of polypus in utero; worms may also produce it, but such cases, will not be considered here.

In treating of Fluxus Albus, we should first consider whether it be symptomatic, or idiopathic; should it not be symptomatic, we should attend to the state of the constitution. If the patient be plethoric, or robust, it will generally be found necessary, to diminish the activity of the vessels, by mild purgatives, sparc diet, and in many cases, we will find it necessary to use the Lancet. Regular

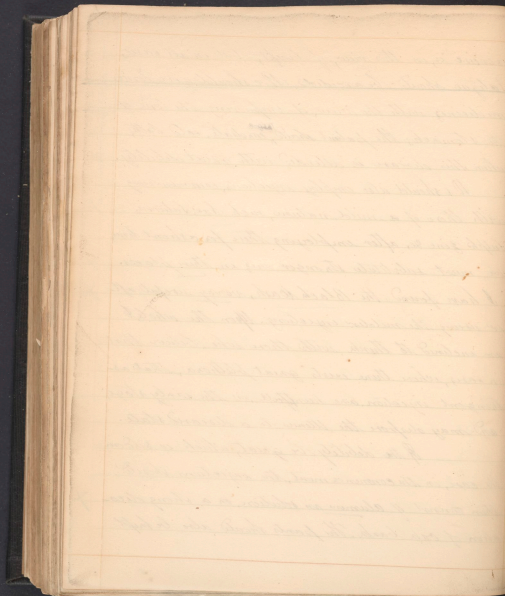


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exercise is, in this view, of benefit, but in all cases,
fatigue should be avoided. We should give Tonic
medicines with the view, of improving the tone of
the stomach; the patient should ^{take} cordials, cold bath,
when this disease is attended with great debility.

We should also employ injections, commencing
with those of a mild nature, such as Sae , Salurnis,
sulph zinc &c, after employing these for a short time,
we must substitute stronger ones in their places.

I have found the Black wash, very useful after
using the milder injections. Upon the whole, I
am inclined to think, with those who believe that
in cases, where there exists great plethora, that as-
tringent injections, are hurtfull, in the early stage,
and may dispose the Uterus to a diseased state.

If the debility be great, which is seldom
the case, in the commencement, the injections should
then consist of aluminum in solution, or a strong deco-
ction of oak bark. The parts should also be kept



than, by frequent washing the parts; exposure to cold, or damp air, should be strictly avoid.

Emetics on account of their operation on the stomach and alimentary canal, are advised by some writers, in cases where much flatulencia exists, I do not think emetics can be of much service; purgatives in such instances, would be of more utility, they however, should be given only, with the view, of keeping the bowels regular, for brigs and repeated purging is hurtful.

Of the internal remedies, the Puncture of Hæmo, seems to have been used by some practitioners with success; medicine have been given with the view of acting on the secretory vessels, such as Cicuta, Diuretic salts, calomel, Cantharides, Oil of Turpentine, &c. From the experience that I have had in the above remedies, I do not hesitate to say, that the Cantharides

is far the best; from the trials that I have made
 of this, I am induced to give it the preference to
 all other internal remedies; the Dioscorin is gene-
 ral given in the dose of 10 or 15 drops 3 times a day
 it may be dissolved in a little water, or on a little
 sugar. Opiates, has also been found very useful
 when the disease is attended with much pain in
 the back, and when there is great restlessness.

When the discharge is very copious,
 and attended with great pain and restlessness, we
 have some reason to think that the excitation
 is in a state of irritation, and by examination it
 will be found, tender to the touch, and the mouth
 of the uterus soft, and somewhat enlarged. It is to
 be managed in the first stage, by warm hip ba-
 ths, mild mercurial laxatives, irritation must be avoided
 After the tenderness is pretty much relieved, the
 cold bath, tonics, and mild regimental restrainers
 to injections, are proper. On the whole, then,

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our practice in Leucorrhoea, when it is not dependant
on organic affections, consists in rectifying the co-
nstitution, making it as healthy as we can, by the
mode above advised, and avoiding as much
as possible all irritating, and exciting causes. X

